

Kol HaLev Happenings

The Newsletter of Cleveland's Reconstructionist Jewish Community

DECEMBER 2016

Kol HaLev's Intergenerational

HANUKKAH PARTY

Candlelighting & Potluck Shabbat Dinner

Friday, December 30, 6-8 p.m.

AT THE NOVICK-OSTER HOME IN SOLON

Once again,
LATKES
will be fried on the premises by
BRIAN MILER
& FRIENDS

BRING YOUR INSTRUMENTS!

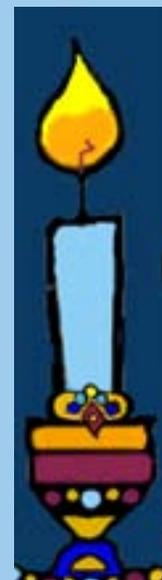
(THERE'LL BE SINGING!)

BRING YOUR HANUKKIOT!

(THERE'LL BE CANDIELIGHTING!)

BRING A DISH TO SHARE!

(SEE THE WEEKLY UPDATE FOR POTLUCK ASSIGNMENTS)



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DIRECTORY

SERVICES & PROGRAMS ARE HELD AT:

The Lillian and Betty Ratner School
27575 Shaker Boulevard
Pepper Pike, OH 44124
<http://www.kolhalev.net>

MAILING ADDRESS & OFFICES:

Kol HaLev
2245 Warrensville Center Rd. Suite 215
University Heights, OH 44118
(216) 320-1498

RABBI:

Steve Segar
rabbisteve@kolhalev.net

EDUCATION DIRECTOR:

Robyn Novick
robyn@kolhalev.net

OFFICE MANAGER:

Kelli Birch
kelli@kolhalev.net

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT Karly Whitaker
VICE PRESIDENT Mattuck Meachem
SECRETARY Deena Epstein
TREASURER David Conn
PAST PRESIDENT Halle Barnett

AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Art Biagianti
Nurete Brenner
Louise Elkind
Robin Holzman
Celia Jennings

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:

RABBI Steve Segar
FOUNDING RABBI Jeffrey Schein
EDUCATION DIR. Robyn Novick

VALUES TEAM LEADERS

WELCOMING & CARING Lila Hanft
SPIRITUAL *open*
LEARNING Bill Scher-Marcus
INVOLVED Kirby Date
DEMOCRATIC & FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE Mattuck Meachem
PARTICIPATORY Maureen Dinner

COMMITTEES and CHAIRS, by VALUES TEAM

WELCOMING & CARING

- Hesed – Robin Holzman & Martha Schubert
- Calendar – Robin Holzman & Kelli Birch
- Newsletter – Lila Hanft
- Proofreader – David Roberts
- Weekly Update – Robin Holzman
- Website – Brian Miller, Lila Hanft, Benjamin Barnett
- Marketing/PR – Halle Barnett
- Tech Support – Brian Miller

SPIRITUAL

- Religious Practices – Bruce Fallick
- Holidays – Amy Hogg & Adina Davidson
- Meditation – Nancy Rubel & Allen Binstock
- Rosh Hodesh – Kirby Date
- Leyning Coordinator – Connie Friedman
- Lay Service Leader Coordinator – David Conn
- Service Co-Leader Coordinator – Arthur Lieberman

LEARNING VALUES TEAM

- Youth & Family Education – Bill Marcus, *interim*
- Adult Education – *Open*
- Young Families/Tot Shabbat – Ben Seligman and Andy Oster
- Child Care Coordinator – Traci Elgart
- Torah Study – Ralph and Selma Gwatkin

- Book Group – Kevin Weidenbaum
- Lunch and Learn – Adina Schoem

INVOLVED VALUES TEAM

- GCC – Allen Binstock & Donna Weinberger

DEMOCRATIC & FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE

- Fundraising – Margaret Cohen & Barry Epstein
- Mock Trial – Jennifer Finkel
- Cemetery – Mike Armin

PARTICIPATORY VALUES TEAM

- Membership – Joe Vainner
- Greeters – Kelli Birch (Office Manager)
- Kiddush – Kelli Birch (Office Manager)
- High Holy Days – Marcia Goldberg
- Women's Group – Happy Wallach

DIRECTLY ACCOUNTABLE TO THE BOARD

- Finance Committee – Alan Weinstein
- Ratner Liaison – *open*
- Rabbi Liaison – Selma Gwatkin & Barry Epstein
- Strategic Planning Committee – Greg Selker
- Nominating Committee – Catharine Fallick
- Security Corps – Bill Scher-Marcus
- Commitment Support Volunteer – Maxine Collin

JAN. NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: THURSDAY, DEC. 15

WE ARE NOW LIVING IN A WORLD MOST PEOPLE DID NOT EXPECT TO be living in a few weeks ago.

This is not only true for those who voted for the Clinton/Kaine ticket. It's also the case that the largest sub-section of those who voted for the Trump/Pence ticket did not expect things to turn out as they have.

So, whether we count ourselves among those who are shocked, or those who are delighted by the outcome of the recent election, I think it's fair to say that all of us are at least a bit more awake to our reality than we were prior to it taking place. While for a bit more than half the country, it seems that what people are awake to is upsetting in the present and carries a hefty amount of anticipatory fear of what might happen down the road, I would argue that just the fact of being more awake does bring an element of blessing along with it. It may be true that for many of us, there is more to fear than there was a month ago, but at the same time, that opening to fear also makes possible an opening to a sense of connection, a sense of mission, and a sense of gratitude for what is nourishing and meaningful in our lives right now.

“ I think it's fair to say that all of us are at least a bit more awake to our reality than we were. ”

May those of us who expected and desired a different outcome, as well as those of us who are pleased with the outcome, remain aware that there are opportunities for growth as individuals and as a society that are embedded in, and intertwined with the challenges we perceive, and may all of us resist the temptation to “write off” the next four years whether for positive or negative reasons, and instead embrace the sense of wakefulness which has emerged and work on channeling it in directions that will make a positive difference in ways that we can sense both concretely and intuitively.

Rabbi Steve

Rabbi Steve is available to meet with Kol HaLev members on a range of issues by appointment on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings. Contact him at 216-320-1498 or at rabbisteve@kolhalev.net.

Nov. 17 GCC action described as "inspiring," "encouraging" and "energizing"



About 40 Kol HaLev members (twice the amount we'd pledged to bring!) joined hundreds of other supporters at a GCC action titled, "**NOW is the TIME: Justice and Jobs in Greater Cleveland.**" Kol HaLev member **Donna Weinberger** (far left) was one of the speakers.



It is an understatement to say that these are difficult times. It has been hard for me to make sense of what we have been witnessing locally, nationally, and internationally. I am unsure. I am confused. I am scared. I feel powerless. Everything seems surreal. I would love to crawl under a rock and hide and reemerge when normalcy has returned, but I know that isn't an option. What will we tell the children?

We will continue to do what we have always done, but stress how it even more important now. We will engage with our children with truth, encourage them to question and inspire them to make morally courageous choices. We will demonstrate the power of community and the strength that we hold as we stand together for what is right. We will look at the tradition and historical role models who took action and fought injustice. We will explore ancient understandings of creating an ethical world and find ways to apply them to our new reality.

We are talking about pluralism and experiencing a multitude of cultures. We act out what we will do if we encounter anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, misogyny, and other forms of discrimination and hatred. We create safe spaces for everyone to share their authentic selves. We reinforce, that we are an inclusive community which loves and respects all its members regardless of where they fall on the spectrum. We show that we are one.

Hagiga is all of these things. It is a platform for learning from our past, reconstructing to make meaningful for our present, and shaping the world we would like to become. I am so proud of our thoughtful, caring and open-minded children. Hearing about their hopes, desires and plans for the world gives me inspiration. I hope it does for you as well.

Kol tuv — All my best,
Robyn

For all those who enjoyed the Ethiopian feast we created in honor of the Ethiopian-Jewish holiday *Sigd*, the recipes for Injera (bread), Mesir Wat (red lentil) and Kik Alich (split pea) can be found through this link. <http://jewishfoodexperience.com/ethiopian-community-comes-together-for-sigd/>. Enjoy!



Kvell Corner: Share your joy!

IF YOU'RE KVELLING, WE WANT TO, TOO!

For milestone birthdays, anniversaries, births b'nai mitzvah, graduations, etc., send news and pictures to newsletter@kolhalev.net

HESED

We send wishes for a *refuah shleimah*, a complete and speedy healing, to **Abe Chasin, Anita Cohn, Ron Kohn, Bellamy Printz and Celia and John Lewis, Pauline Raymond and Donna and Dick Weinberger.** *We would love to hear from you if you or another Kol HaLev member you know of would like to be included on this list.*

Thanks to **Nancy Rubel**, who was the November Monthly Co-ordinator. During the month, members provided rides, made visits, supported mourners, and sent cards.

Please join us for our annual Hesed Service

Saturday, January 21, 2017

*Through readings, stories, and the liturgy of the Shabbat Service,
we will focus on the value of Hesed to the Jewish people
and our Kol HaLev community.*

If you wish to participate in the work of the Hesed Committee, or if you know of anyone who may need the support of our committee, please contact Rabbi Steve or Robin Holzman (robinholzman@gmail.com) and Martha Schubert (marthaschubert@mac.com), Hesed Co-chairs.

BOARD REPORT

DEENA EPSTEIN, SECRETARY

The Kol HaLev board met November 14 at the home of Bill Scher-Marcus and agreed to pursue participation in a new board leadership development program funded by the Legacy Heritage Foundation.

Kol HaLev was invited to nominate two board members who will participate in the 18-month long program along with board members from other Cleveland Jewish organizations. The members nominated, Celia Jennings and Mattuck Meacham, will attend intensive training sessions and each select a project that will benefit Kol HaLev. Halle Barnett and Kirby Date will serve as the required mentors. Kol HaLev also will receive \$5,000 for its participation and also can apply for a grant of up to \$10,000 for additional board development or consulting assistance.

Rabbi Steve met with a Legacy Heritage representative and was impressed by the project. He noted that our community had been part of an early Legacy Heritage program that helped develop intergenerational education programming for Kol HaLev.

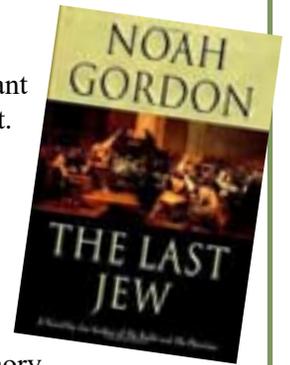
The treasurer's report indicated that we were on-track with budget projections and the previous years' experience, with only minor variations that can be attributed to timing of certain income. He said we have received commitments thus far from 96 of 137 households. Our commitment support volunteer is following up with members who have not submitted their commitment form.

[*continued on page 7*](#)

HUG HASEFER: BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The Book Circle will next meet on Thursday, Dec. at the home of Deena and Dick Epstein. We will discuss *The Last Jew* by Noah Gordon. (348 pages, a Kindle version exists).

A preview from Amazon: In the year 1492, the Inquisition has all of Spain in its grip. After centuries of pogrom-like riots encouraged by the Church, the Jews - who have been an important part of Spanish life since the days of the Romans - are expelled from the country by royal edict. Many who wish to remain are intimidated by Church and Crown and become Catholics, but several hundred thousand choose to retain their religion and depart; given little time to flee, some perish even before they can escape from Spain.



Yonah Toledano, the 15-year-old son of a celebrated Spanish silversmith, has seen his father and brother die during these terrible days—victims whose murders go almost unnoticed in a time of mass upheaval. Trapped in Spain by circumstances, he is determined to honor the memory of his family by remaining a Jew.

On a donkey named Moise, Yonah begins a meandering journey, a young fugitive zigzagging across the vastness of Spain. Toiling at manual labor, he desperately tries to cling to his memories of a vanished culture. As a lonely shepherd on a mountaintop he hurls snatches of almost forgotten Hebrew at the stars, as an apprentice armorer he learns to fight like a Christian knight. Finally, as a man living in a time and land where danger from the Inquisition is everywhere, he deals with the questions that mark his past. How he discovers the answers, how he finds his way to a singular and strong Marrano woman, how he achieves a life with the outer persona of a respected Old Christian physician and the inner life of a secret Jew, is the fabric of this novel. *The Last Jew* is a glimpse of the past, an authentic tale of high adventure, and a tender and unforgettable love story. In it, Noah Gordon utilizes his greatest strengths, and the result is remarkable and moving.

The Book Group won't meet in January and February. and the first meeting in 2017 will be in March. The book for that meeting will be announced in the March newsletter. The list of all meeting dates and the books that will be discussed next year will be on our web page (see below) by the first of the year.

All Kol HaLev members are welcome to attend the book group. For more information about the group look at our web page (kolhalev.net/book_group) and contact Kevin (KJW@oberlin.net) to be added to the group's e-mail list.

BOARD REPORT, [continued from page 5](#)

Other topics discussed included:

Fall fundraising campaign: This remains an important part of the Kol HaLev budget. All members have received a letter about the campaign and will receive a follow-up communication concerning a matching fund opportunity provided by several member families.

Leadership Taskforce: The group expects to complete its report before the end of the year and will hold a community meeting in early 2017.

Shabbaton: Volunteers are needed to help plan the 2017 Shabbaton which will be held April 28 and 29.

The next board meeting is December 12 at 7:30 at the home of David Conn. All members are welcome to attend.

YAHARZEITS

They are now a part of us, as we remember them

Members of Kol HaLev will mark the following yahrzeits during the next month:

- Barney Lasky—father of Renee Siegel
- Adeline Rothenberg Berger—grandmother of Nancy Frazier
- David Cooper (David Schmel)—father of Maxine Brand
- Rosalie Cohen—mother of Margaret Cohen
- Asnat Kelman—mother in law of Anna Kelman
- Zelig Resnick—grandfather of Linda Gross
- Renee Pincus—mother in law of Joyce Goldstein
- Doris Kittila—grandmother of Itsik Kittila
- Charles Edward May—paternal grandfather of Chip May
- Mary R. Manny—mother of Meg Manny
- Marguerite Dresden—aunt of Phyllis Maris

Kol HaLev members may include the yahrzeit of loved ones in *Kol HaLev Happenings* by submitting the name of the deceased—the relationship to the member—and the date of death—including the year—in either the secular or Jewish calendar to kelli@kolhalev.net. You can find a calendar converter at <http://www.hebcal.com/converter/>.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Kol HaLev gratefully acknowledges these contributions:

- **Maggie Hoffman** in appreciation for the live stream of High Holy Days services
- **Deborah Wohl** in appreciation for live stream of High Holy Days services
- **Stuart Kleiner** in honor of Fred and Marsha Chenin for being wonderful cousins
- **Eda Weiss** in commemoration of the yahrzeits of her husband, Alfred Weiss and her parents, Rose and Harry Beckerman
- **Gloria Plevin** in commemoration of the yahrzeit of her husband, Leon Plevin
- **Anna Kelman** in commemoration of yahrzeit of her husband, Sam Kelman
- **Stephen Alter** in appreciation of Kol HaLev: "My father is healing at Cleveland Clinic. My recent attendance was to thank G-d for blessings. A Chai-5 for a wonderful, welcoming, service."
- **Susan Golden** in honor of Leah Kamionkowski's birthday
- **Fran Zamore** in honor of Rabbi Steve
- **Eric and Sue Kisch**

Make a donation to Kol HaLev in honor of a simcha, in memory of a loved one, in commemoration of a yahrzeit, or just because. You can donate check or online, whichever is more comfortable and convenient for you. Find out how at http://kolhalev.net/giving_opportunities.

Kol HaLev

“merch”
makes
wonderful
Hanukkah
gifts!



You know you love the flavors of Kol HaLev’s famous potlucks:
Share the deliciousness – Give the Kol HaLev cookbook for Hanukkah!
Pair it with one of our snazzy, recycled fiber canvas totes | Eco
travel mugs | Hearty ceramic mugs | Mix and match!

Deadline for ordering: Dec. 9 • Pick up your pre-paid order at Kiddush on Dec. 17

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email (for order confirmation): _____

I will pick up my pre-paid order at Kol Halev after services on Saturday December 17!

Cookbooks: Nearly 100 pages of members’ “Recipes from the Heart”, organized by the Jewish holiday cycle.
\$18 each | 2 or more: \$16 each

Canvas Totes: Sturdy, convenient, eco-friendly recycled fiber.
\$10 each | 2 or more: \$8 each (*Quantities limited*)

Travel Mugs: 16 oz, biodegradable! Fits in your car’s cupholder.
\$5 each | 2 or more: \$4 each (*Quantities limited*)

Ceramic Mugs: 14 oz, perfect for coffee / cocoa. Fill ‘em with gelt!
\$10 each | 2 or more \$8.50 each

Gift sets: *Get one of each item for \$36 – while supplies last!*

My Order:

___ # cookbooks x \$___ ea. = ___

___ # canvas totes x \$___ ea. = ___

___ # travel mugs x \$___ ea. = ___

___ # ceramic mugs x \$___ ea. = ___

___ # gift sets x \$___ ea. = ___

Payment: Send order form & check to Kol HaLev office, OR email order to kelli@kolhalev.net & pay online @ kolhalev.net/pay_simple
Questions? Call Halle Barnett at 216-291-4313

TOTAL PAYMENT: \$ _____

Kol HaLev presents an Intergenerational event



Mensch מענטש - noun: a person of integrity and honor

**Saturday,
December 3, 2016
12:45-2:00 pm**

Please join us for a FREE intergenerational lunch and learn following services where we will watch the short film The Making of a Mensch by Tiffany Shlain and discuss the importance of character. The film explores character education through the ancient Jewish teachings of Mussar by looking at ideas and practices through an engaging and accessible lens, reminding us all how relevant these Jewish tools are to our 21st century lives. There will be activities related to the film, as well as a conversation about who we are, who we want to be in the world, and how we can get there.

Please RSVP to Robyn by 12/1 to ensure we have enough food and supplies

*This program is being conducted under a grant from the Jewish Education Center of Cleveland's Congregational Enrichment Fund and the Fund for the Future of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland.



TRAPPED!

ESCAPE ROOM

No'ar Hadash Youth Group (grades 8-12) needs your help!
We need you to get us out! Help free us from the Cell!

Sunday, December 11, 2016

2:45—4:45 pm

1796 Coventry Road, Cleveland Heights



We plan to volunteer later in the month - over winter break. Let Robyn know your schedule and your preference of organization:

- ◆ St. Herman's House - preparing and serving meals at the soup kitchen
- ◆ Adoption Network Cleveland - making baked goods for support groups & events
- ◆ Cleveland Food Bank
- ◆ Heights Emergency Food Center
- ◆ Medwish

Questions? Need to RSVP?

Contact Robyn 216-320-1498 or robyn@kolhalev.net

Check out the Kol HaLev No'ar Hadash Facebook page!

Friend us!

All programs are **FREE** thanks to a grant from the
Jewish Education Center of Cleveland

Kol Halev's Intergenerational

HANUKKAH

PARTY

Candlelighting & Potluck Shabbat Dinner

Friday, December 30, 6-8 p.m.

AT THE NOVICK-OSTER HOME

Once again,

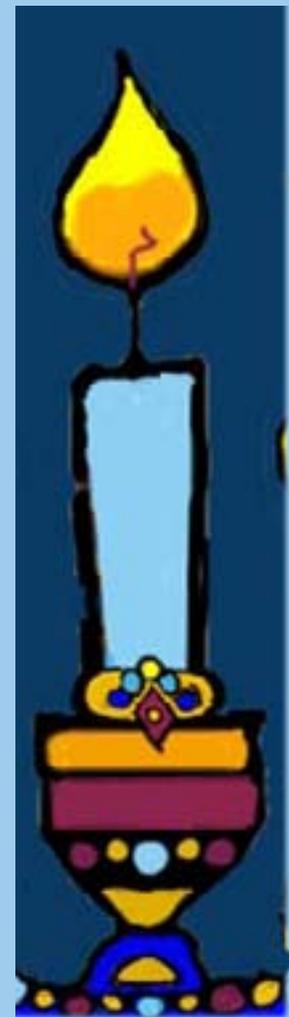
LATKES

will be fried on the premises by

BRIAN MILER & FRIENDS

**BRING YOUR HANUKKIOT!
BRING YOUR INSTRUMENTS!
BRING A DISH TO SHARE!**

Check the Weekly Update for potluck assignments!



CALENDAR

Sat., Dec. 3	9:15-10:15 a.m.	Philosophical Inquiry (5th - 7th graders)
	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Torah Discussion in Ratner Library led by Audrey Warner
	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Hagiga
	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Shabbat Service in the Ratner Chapel. Parasha: <i>Toledot</i> ; Service Leader: Rabbi Steve; Kiddush Sponsor: Kol HaLev; Greeters: Jean and Brian Miller
	10:45-11:15 a.m.	Tot-Parent Shabbat Program
	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Intergenerational Lunch and Learn – Making of a Mensch. Details on page 9
Sun., Dec. 4	10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon	Nesiya at Ratner School
Mon., Dec. 5	7:30 p.m.	Executive Committee Meeting
Fri., Dec. 9	Deadline for ordering Kol HaLev Hanukkah Gifts . See order form on page 8 or at http://kolhalev.net	
Sat., Dec. 10	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Member Led Shabbat Service in Ratner Chapel; Parasha: <i>Vayetze</i> ; Service Leaders: Sue Pelleg and Rachel Williams; Kiddush Sponsors: Connie Friedman and David Shutkin and Bill and Michal Scher-Marcus; Greeter Needed
	5:00-7:00 p.m.	Bonim Havdalah at the Novick-Oster home
Sun., Dec. 11	10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon	Nesiya- Chaverim B'Telefon Kickoff
	2:45-4:45 p.m.	No'ar Hadash Youth Group at Trapped! Escape Room 1796 Coventry Rd., Cleveland Heights. See page 10 for details.
Mon., Dec. 12	7:30-9:30 p.m.	Board Meeting at the home of David Conn. Open to all members.
Thurs., Dec. 15	Deadline for the January Kol HaLev Happenings Newsletter	
Sat., Dec. 17	9:15-10:15 a.m.	Philosophical Inquiry (5th - 7th graders)
	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Torah Discussion in Ratner Library led by Bruce Fallick
	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Hagiga
	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Human Rights Shabbat Service in the Ratner Chapel. Parasha: <i>Vayishlah</i> ; Service Leaders: Allen Binstock and Rabbi Steve; Kiddush Sponsor: Margy Weinberg; Greeters Needed
	10:45-11:15 a.m.	Tot-Parent Shabbat Program
	12:30 p.m.	Pick-up Hanukkah gift orders (order form on page 8) at kiddush
Sun., Dec. 18	10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon	Nesiya
Thurs., Dec. 22	7:30-9:00 p.m.	Book Club Meeting at the home of Dick and Deena Epstein. See page 6.
Sat., Dec. 24	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Member Led Shabbat Service at the home of Bruce and Catherine Fallick ; Parasha: <i>Vayeshev</i> ; Service Leader: David Conn; Kiddush Sponsors Needed
Fri., Dec. 30	6:00-9:00 p.m.	Intergenerational Chanukah Celebration and Potluck at the Novick-Oster home. More information on page 11
Sat., Dec. 31	We will not be holding a Shabbat Service this week.	

To sign up to **host a kiddush**, go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4bada828a1f85-kolhalev5>

To sign up to **be a greeter**, go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4bada828a1f85-kolhalev4>

We strive to make this calendar as accurate as possible, but additions, cancellations and other changes may occur after the newsletter is published. To ensure you have the most up-to-date information, please double-check your plans in the Weekly Update (which arrives in members' email inboxes every Thursday), or visit [the calendar on the Kol HaLev website](#).

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

Kol HaLev Happenings is the newsletter of Kol HaLev, Cleveland's Reconstructionist Jewish Community. This digital newsletter can be read onscreen in Adobe Reader or printed out on paper. Please email newsletter@kolhalev.net with comments, complaints, corrections, suggestions, or notices for upcoming issues. [Back issues of Kol HaLev Happenings](#) can be downloaded from the [Kol HaLev website](#).

Kol HaLev Happenings

The Newsletter of Cleveland's Reconstructionist Jewish Community

2245 Warrensville Center Rd., #215
University Heights, OH 44118
216-320-1498

Place
stamp
here

Kol HaLev, Cleveland's Reconstructionist Jewish Congregation, is an egalitarian, participatory spiritual community. Visit our website at <http://www.kolhalev.net>